



For immediate release

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Greenwood Parks & Recreation Makes it Easy to be Green

GREENWOOD, INDIANA (April 13, 2007) – With Arbor Day fast approaching, the Greenwood Parks & Recreation Department is making it easier than ever to “Be Green.”

The Parks Department has partnered with the Hugh J. Ross estate to give away nearly 1,000 tree seedlings to Greenwood residents. Ross was passionate about increasing awareness about the need for trees and making them readily accessible to the public.

Trees clean and add oxygen to the air and absorb greenhouse gases that have been linked to global warming.

The tree giveaway will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Arbor Day, April 27, at the Greenwood Community Center. The center is located at 100 Surina Way, across from the Greenwood Police Department.

There are 10 different varieties of trees available, including the Flowering Dogwood and the Tuliptree, the state tree of Indiana. Parks Department employees will be on hand to answer questions and pass out information about how to plant and care for the seedlings.

Ross, who died in December, was a longtime Whiteland resident who gave away thousands of trees during his lifetime to celebrate Earth Day. He enjoyed watching children plant a young seedling and then encouraged them to watch the tree grow up as they did.

The free tree giveaway is the second Arbor Day event in Greenwood.

Tim Womick, a modern-day Johnny Appleseed, will be the featured presenter at an Arbor Day celebration at 9 a.m., April 24 at Westwood Elementary School. The program includes an interactive presentation by Womick on the value of trees and our urban forest

and concludes with the planting of a Red Oak tree on the grounds of the school, located at 899 Honey Creek Road.

Womick travels the country, much like the 19th century Johnny Appleseed, spreading the word about the value of trees. His visit to Greenwood is being sponsored by Duke Energy. He will speak to more than 100 third and fourth graders at the school. His fast-paced and highly animated style has been called “performance art.” Womick entertains with a variety of jokes, props and songs and involves dozens of students during the program.

About 200 trees will be distributed to the children at the Westwood event.

For more information, please contact the Greenwood Parks and Recreation Department at (317) 881-4545.